



JUNE, 1929

Volume Three

Number Four



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BRISCOE BRIEFS

Written, Edited, and Printed by

Seventh and Eighth Grade Pupils of the Briscoe School, Beverly, Mass.

A Passing Thought

Our two short years at Briscoe are now completed. Although we pass from the building with eager anticipation of our future at the High School, we stop to ponder over cherished memories of these last two years. We have gained many riches—knowledge, concentration, self-control, co-operation, and loyalty.

What Briscoe pupil is not thrilled by the inspiring words, "Play the Game Fair?" They have been part of our valued training and are now firm in our minds—a guide in our daily life. If we have tried our best to live up to the ideal embedded in this motto, we have laid the foundation for our success in the High School.

We regret to leave our dear old Briscoe school, our friendly classmates, our teachers who have been such an inspiration, and our beloved principal.

We leave to you, seventh graders, the honor of Briscoe. Hold it high and guard it faithfully. Remember—"Tomorrow's Success is founded upon Today's Preparation".

Barbara Demack, Editor

A Farewell to the Eighth Grades

The time has come for us to bid farewell to the eighth grades and although we regret to see them leave us, yet, we are assured by their ineffaceable record here that they will reflect great credit upon the "Spirit of Briscoe," which has governed them during their past two years. We know that they will enjoy the High School's many clubs and activities and that they will become greatly enthused over their new studies. We wish them happiness and success, and we hope that they will always bear in mind our simple but effective motto, *Play the Game Fair*.

Frederick Kilham

Assistant Editor

Welcome, New Sevenths

Briscoe wishes to extend a hearty welcome to the incoming seventh grade pupils who will be our associates during the next year at Briscoe. We sincerely hope that they will enjoy our school and will be loyal to its standards. We also hope that every seventh grade pupil will take an interest in our motto, "Play the Game Fair."

Priscilla Stone,

Assistant Editor

The Briscoe Briefs

A school paper issued by the students
of the Briscoe School, Beverly, Mass.
Printed by the Practical Arts
Classes in Printing.

Vol. 4

No. 4

June 1929

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Briscoe 1929 Class Song

(Tune, *Melody in F*)

By Rubenstien

*Briscoe, we'll always remember you,
We've cherished mem'ries, thoughts
so true,
As we depart, you shall hear us sigh—
On to Beverly High.*

*"Play the Game Fair" is our motto
and aim,*

*Ever we'll guard it—keep it from
shame,*

*Be prompt, respectful, intelligent,
true;*

Briscoe, we bid adieu.

Barbara Demack, 8 GHa

The Briscoe School Song

(Tune: Our Director's March)

*Here's to dear old Briscoe,
Our hearts are thine,
Always we'll cherish,
Honor, and with loyalty,
We'll serve thee ever—
"Play the Game Fair" is our motto,
We'll guard it well—
Hail! Hail to Briscoe,
Our beloved school!*

Marjory Sennett, '28

ALUMNI DAY

Every year a day is set apart for members of our Alumni to spend an afternoon of pleasure at Briscoe. This year's Alumni Day was held on March 14. Four hundred pupils who have gone on to the High School attended the afternoon's entertainment which was a comedy, entitled "*The Patriotic Peanut Stand*." One act pictured seven children conducting a peanut stand at a circus in order to raise money for community purposes. The last act took place inside the circus tent and all the freaks and animals performed in such a clever manner that the audience was kept in a gale of laughter.

The following pupils were elected for the Alumni Executive Board:-

1925-1926 Class

Mary Kelleher, Myrtle Dockham, Ruth Griffith, Wilbur Andrew, and Mathew Allison.

1926-1927 Class

Lydia Jordan, Marion Webb, Robert Story, Kingston Woodman, Marjrey Gates

1927-1928 Class

Pauline Leighton, Helen Martin, Maxwell Small, Rosella Fagan, Frederick Newman.

Ruth Hord, 8 C S



Principals Committee—Advisory Council

Briscoe's Third Annual Club Night

Briscoe's Third Annual Club Night, which was held Friday Evening, May 3, in the Briscoe School Assembly Hall, proved a great success. Eight clubs took part and presented a splendid program which showed the effective work done by all our clubs. One hundred and thirty two pupils took part in the performances and sixty others prepared the exhibitions in the main corridor of the school.

The delightful Operetta *Merry Company* was the work of the Glee and Dramatic Clubs.

A most interesting debate, "Resolved, that Beverly should support at public expense a more comprehen-

sive community program," was given by six selected members of the Debating Club. The decision was in favor of the Negative Side. The judges were Honorable Roy K. Patch, Mr. Thomas Casey, Attorney at Law, and Mr. Edwards Colbert, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Math Club entertained the audience with a clever little sketch entitled "Magic Math Elves."

The miniature houses on exhibition were built and furnished in modern style by the members of the Home Decorating and Boys' Hobby Clubs. There was a display of dresses made by the girls' sewing classes.

The Art Club had a wonderful exhibit of painted handkerchiefs, scarfs, vases, woodwork, and parchment shades made by the members of the Art Club.

The program which the various activities carried on so successfully delighted the audience, and everyone agreed it was one of the best entertainments ever presented by children.

The Faculty advisors of the different clubs were as follows:-

Dramatic Club—Miss Anderson,

Miss Hazelton, Mr. Cronin

Glee Club—Miss Robbins

Orchestra—Miss Robbins

Debating Club—Miss Shatswell,

Miss Lapham, Miss Coleman,

Miss Barker

Math Club—Miss Eaton, Mrs.

Gould, Miss Varney

Art Club—Miss Lyons

Home Decorating Club—Miss

Loomis, Miss Pullen

Boys' Hobby Club—Mr. Waite

Pianist—Miss McCurdy

Josephine Pellegrini, 8 G H

A Mystery of Africa

I wonder how many have ever heard of the picturesque Rain Forest of Rhodesia in southern Africa. The rain is caused by a spray from mammoth falls rising in vast columns from the chasm which borders the jungle. This spray is so heavy it drips in torrents from every branch and leaf, lies in pools on the ground, and rustles in the coarse grass. As one moves from spot to spot to view these falls, an endless succession of rainbows are seen lighting the forest with beautiful and weird colors. To the natives of Rhodesia this is one of the greatest of Africa's mysteries.

Blanche Sherman, 7 Ha

Briscoe's Health Council

Under the direction of Miss Pierson, a group of boys and girls was called together for the purpose of forming a Students' Health Council. This body of students took up matters concerning health here at Briscoe. Meetings of this council were held every other Monday at 1:30 and continued until all business had been completed.

The members of the Health Council were as follows:

Josephine Cassola	7 E
Elizabeth Doble	7 Ha
Richard Kelly	7 Ha
Mary Burke	7 L
Eleanor Burns	7 La
James Herrick	7 La
Virginia Calve	7 Mc
Marion Silver	7 Mc
Marjory May	7 R
John Harris	7 R
Florence Denault	8 G B
Fred Lewis	8 G C
Henry Kelleher	8 G C
Dorothy Nichols	8 G H
Edwin Walsh	8 G H
John Welch	8 G Ha
Charles Bennett	8 G Ha
Louise Duncan	8 C Ha
Mildred Perry	8 C Ha
Gertrude Keefe	8 C M
Susie Dimala	8 C M
Marjory Robinson	8 C S
Emily Stiles	8 C S
Ruth Wedgewood	8 C V
Esther Terrio	8 C V
Richard Maitland	

P. A. 1, 2 and 3

Emily Stiles, 8 C S

The staff of Briscoe Briefs

wishes you all a

Happy Vacation.



Briscoe Brief's Staff

Club Activities

This is a brief account of what the clubs at Briscoe have been doing.

The Debating Club gave a debate in the school library. The question was, "Resolved; that children with Y's should not be excluded from Extra Curricular Activities." The judges were Mr. Cronin, Miss Hatch, and Miss McCurdy. All the teachers were present. The debate was very interesting, well prepared, and well delivered. When the debate was over, the judges gave their decision, that the affirmative side had won.

If you had entered Room 20 some Monday after school hours, you would smell a peculiar scent of tintex paint for several members of the Art Club would be painting

scarfs, kerchiefs and handkerchiefs. In another corner of the the room you would see some seventh grade pupils painting parrots or waxing vases. Then if you glanced in an other direction you would see a boy painting a parchment shade and two girls struggling over their crystal trees. You would leave this room with the impression that the Art Club was certainly a group of very busy and industrious boys and girls.

The dramatic club consists of three groups. They have had many meetings during the past year and many delightful entertainments have been prepared and enjoyed by the members. "The Mistake," a play, was given by group 3 for group 1 and 2, and a

play entitled "The Talk of the Town", was given by the group 1 and 2 for 3 in return.

The Magic Math Elves met under the direction of Miss Eaton assisted by Miss Varney and Mrs. Gould. They studied the development of Egyptian and Babylonian number symbols with an occasional catch problem just for fun. Lately they have been working on various kinds of graphs. The seventh grade Math members have made punctuality graphs, and the eighth grade members made attendance graphs.

The meetings of the Glee Club were usually held in the hall. After the president called the meeting to order and the secretary's report was read, the business was transacted. Many of the finest classics were studied and sung.

The Home Decorating Club consists of two branches. The girls first planned the furnishing of their miniature houses in an attractive, but economical manner, and then made the furniture, curtains and rugs for the houses.

The boys in the Hobby Club at first made their favorite hobbies such as boats, and then they worked together making the miniature houses for the Home Decorating Club.

The orchestra held its meetings in the hall every Tuesday at 3:30. Their performances at the assemblies show the splendid work done at these rehearsals.

The members have gained much knowledge from these extra curricular activities as well as deriving much pleasure from them.

Josephine Pellegrini, 8GH

Health Tag Day at Briscoe

May first was Child Health Day. Three tags were awarded to the pupils for the following health points:

Red tags for Weight

White tags for Teeth

Blue tags for Posture

In order to receive the red tag for weight, the child was required to be in the "Health Zone" which ranges from 10% under weight to 20% over weight. The white tag signified that the teeth of the pupil were O. K., and in most cases the child had received a certificate from his dentist stating that to date all dental work necessary had been done. For the blue tag the boy or girl had to pass the posture tests given by the physical training instructors and Supervisor, Mr. MacKenzie. Blue ribbons were presented to the children having three tags.

In the afternoon a health play entitled, "The Slim Princess" was presented by Divisions 8 G H and 8 C S.

After the play, Miss Pierson, the school nurse, presented the Blue Ribbons to 167 children, and then gave an interesting talk on health.

Emily M. Stiles, 8 C S

The Teachers' Luncheon

After a year of studying home making, P A 3 sought an opportunity to show the faculty what they had learned. The opportunity came with the annual teachers' luncheon which was given the first week in June. For some weeks in advance the girls were planning the menu, table decorations, cost, and table service. The result was an attractive luncheon, efficiently served and enjoyed by both pupils and teachers.

Josephine Arena, P A 3

*Orchestra*

Lad: A Dog

Lad was a staunch hearted faithful dog, who would willingly lay down his life for his master. Lad was the pride of "The Place." He was four feet tall, had soft eyes that were always melancholy, four absurdly small feet for such a large dog, a broad white chest and a great plumed tail, which waved proudly over his broad back. Lad was at times serious, gay, sad, joyful, melancholy and loving. One of Lad's best traits was loyalty to his master and mistress.

Lad was also very mischievous. One day Lad was feeling foolish

and puppy like, so he decided to act as he felt. He stole cautiously to the dairy, where he pulled down the dairy pans that were full and made a river of milk knee deep. Then he darted to the kitchen, and taking a leg of mutton, led the cook a wild chase over hill and dale, after which he deposited the meat in a mud puddle and trotted serenely home.

If you want to find out more about this lovable dog, read Terhune's *Lad: A Dog*, one of the best books I have ever read.

Charles Bennett, 8G Ha

THE MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE

George Trappem, a famous detective, yawned, coughed, blew his nose, parted his hair in the middle, and rose suddenly from his chair.

"Willie," he said to his young assistant in a harsh voice, "I have decided to go to Paris."

Willie Hustle did not look surprised at this sudden announcement, but he just murmured, "Oh, yes," and went on with his work.

"I feel I need a holiday, Willie," went on the detective. "I can't sleep in the daytime and that is a sure sign that I've been overworking. If I hurry I shall catch the 11:69 train from Waterloo, and, all being well, I should arrive in Paris when I get there. Meanwhile," he went on, "I want you to look after this office. If the milkman calls, tell him to leave a pint as usual, and should any clients call and desire me to take up a case for them,—which is extremely unlikely—just take their names and addresses."

"And where shall I take their names and addresses, sir?" asked Willie.

"Well, fancy asking me a question like that!" snapped Mr. Trappem. "Surely you didn't think that I expect you to take 'em for a bus ride, do you?"

As Willie could find no answer to this question he did not reply, and three hours later George Trappem left for Paris.

"So this is Paris," exclaimed George as he alighted from his taxi. For a moment he stood gazing at the electric signs which blazed at him from all angles.

"Lights—Lights!" he cried. "How I love lights!"

Just then a curious empty feeling came over the detective and he

awoke to the fact that he had had nothing to eat since he left London. "I must have something to eat," he said, and entering the swinging doors of a smart restaurant he sat down at a table and ordered some food.

He had just swallowed the last of his coffee when his keen eyes observed a man sitting facing him a few tables away. The man was dressed in a long black cloak, and his pale face was almost concealed by a long, black beard and heavy, bushy eyebrows. As their eyes met, the detective felt sure that the bearded man smiled at him, but the stranger's face was so overgrown with whiskers it was difficult for the detective to be absolutely certain of this.

Trappem turned away to pour himself a glass of water when the bearded stranger rose from his seat, and as he passed the detective's table, dropped a piece of paper on a plate. Then before George Trappem could ask any questions, the man glided silently, but swiftly through the swinging doors of the restaurant and disappeared.

For a few seconds—possibly longer than that—George Trappem sat gazing at the piece of paper in front of him. Then, with trembling hands, he unfolded it. Written very poorly in ink was a message in French, and George Trappem gave a snort of disgust as he discovered that he could not read it.

"Who knows?" he muttered. "This message may mean a matter of life and death to someone. I must get it translated at once!" And clapping his hands loudly he beckoned to the waiter.

"Someone has just handed me this note," he explained, "and I would like you to translate it to me."

The waiter smiled, picked up the note and read it carefully. As he did so, George Trappem saw the smile slowly fade from his face, and a look of terror spring into the man's eyes. Then, without a word to the detective, with the help of two other waiters they sprang upon him and threw him into the street.

As George Trappem scrambled to his feet, still clutching the mysterious note, he was more than ever determined to discover the contents of the letter, and observing a gendarme strolling towards him, he asked him. As the French policeman read the note, his face turned livid with fury, and, without a word, he caught the detective by the coat collar and marched him off to the police station.

After spending the night in a cell, George Trappem was ordered by the magistrate to be deported from France, and with the mysterious letter still in his pocket the detective arrived back in London. By this time he was more curious than ever to know what the letter contained, but he was now afraid to ask any stranger to translate it for him.

Then suddenly he thought of his old friend, Professor Tutchwood. "He will be sure to tell me what this letter contains," muttered the detective, "I will see him at once!" Two hours later George Trappem entered the office of Professor Tutchwood.

"Now look here, Professor," he said coming quickly to the point, "I have here in my possession a letter written in a foreign language, and I want you to promise me that you will not be offended with me after you have read it. I may mention that I have been thrown

out of a restaurant in Paris, and the French police have deported me from their country, and at last I come to you as a friend to tell me what mystery the letter contains. Do you promise?"

"Certainly, George!" replied the professor. "And I might as well tell you that there is not a language in the world that I cannot read, so you could not have come to a better person. Now let me see the letter."

George Trappem dived his hand into his coat pocket and a cry of horror broke from his lips.

"What is the matter?" shouted the professor.

"I've lost the letter!" groaned the detective, and he sank into a chair near by.

Alison Black, 8 C S

Art Honors

Many of the Briscoe pupils have done some exceptionally fine work in art this year.

A design drawn by Geno Pellegrini, 7 Ha, was selected for the Beverly School Calendar.

Virginia Clayton, of 7 Mc, won a prize for a drawing which she submitted to the Boston Herald.

Ruth Daigle, 8 GB, did an excellent piece of poster work, which won her first prize in the Animal Poster Contest. She was awarded a blue ribbon and a medal. Geno Pellegrini, 7 Ha, and Florence DeNault, 8 GB, received second prize with red ribbons and medals in this contest. A third prize and a year's subscription to the Dumb Animals Magazine were awarded to Shirley Grush, 7 Ha, Constance Alley, 8 G Ha, Rosalind Chansky, 8 G Ha, and Neil Faulkner, 8 GH.

Anita Ventura, 7 Ha.

Class Notes

7R

Our class has had a most interesting time in English this year, writing about curiosities. Any piece of old furniture, chinaware, ancient clothing, or foreign coins could be described in a way that would delight us and make us very eager to see the queer article. One pupil in the class wrote about an old Chinese vase that had been brought from foreign lands. An old hat laden with beautiful plumes was the curiosity described by another pupil, and still another was a Spanish coin. The subject proved most instructive and was thoroughly enjoyed by all the pupils of the class.

Evelyn Thompson 7 R

7 Mc

Not every one is fortunate enough to know the real joy of traveling through Europe. 7 Mc has caught quite a bit of enthusiasm and eager interest from an imaginary trip taken by the geography class. Our note books have taken the form of diaries. They have been most complete with travel maps, pictures taken on our boat, personal descriptions of the places visited, little items about the manners and customs of the different countries illustrated with pictures and hasty sketches and little snatches of foreign languages. It has been great fun and made the study of geography exceedingly interesting and more like pleasure than a task.

Barbara Conant Stiles

7 E

7 E's geography work this year has included an imaginary trip to England. Much of our time was spent in the outskirts of London, visiting the coal and iron mines. Another thing that interested us immensely was the great piles of slate near the coal mines. Each recorded his trip in a diary and illustrated it with pictures of the boat upon which he sailed and of places visited.

Elmer Harrison

7 Ha

We had a delightful time in music making musical cross-word puzzles. I drew as well as I could a violin. It was done in ink on white drawing paper and divided into half inch squares. I filled in some of the squares to represent the bridge, sound or "f" holes, and tail piece. Then the fun began. If a word would go one way, it wouldn't go the other. I thought of all the composers' names and Italian terms but none would fit. Finally I noticed that I had spelled Mendelsshon with one "s." With that corrected, I had no difficulty in arranging the other words.

Donald Brown

7 La

The following pupils in 7 La have not been absent, tardy, or dismissed so far this year:—

Reginald Gangloff
Frank Gillis
John Mackey
Clifton Potter
Marion Semple

Kenneth Lang

7 L

Miss Barker allowed 7 E^o and 7 L to have a museum about Switzerland. The pupils of these divisions made houses and scenery and dressed dolls like Swiss people. They made watches, cheese factories and hotels. They painted mountains and tall waving trees. The goats, cows, and dogs could be seen on the mountains sides cared for by dolls dressed like boys. These two classes worked hard and made a success of their undertaking.

Elizabeth Woodberry

8 G Ha

Our English class is divided into seven groups. Each group has six or seven members, one of whom is the chairman. In criticising oral talks each group corrects one point; such as posture, voice, manner, beginning sentence, ending sentence, "single phrase" of talk, choice of words, pronunciation, enunciation, and English.

This makes the correcting of compositions more interesting and gives us more responsibility.

Marjorie O'Donnell

8 C M

An interesting venture in 8 C M arithmetic this year was the making of notebooks. In these we wrote an explanation of each subject as we studied it, and pasted illustrations and clippings bearing upon our topics. The first time the books were ranked, only Dorothy Shultz had A, but as time went on, they improved greatly in appearance and content. What ever our rank, we were sure we got from the work just what we put into it.

Susie Dimala

8 GH

History has been one of our most fascinating subjects this year, made so by the use of two methods. Sometimes Miss Lapham told us interesting stories and tested us on what she had taught us. On other occasions she gave a special topic to each row or to individual members. After a certain number of days, we recited them. The plan of giving topics to rows has been most successful because it held the class interested by varying the recitation. One morning George Brown from 8 G Ha talked on the topic of airplanes. He showed pictures to illustrate his subject and drew figures on the board. He had no difficulty in holding everyone's attention, as the applause at the close of his talk testified.

Dorothy Haffcke

8 C Ha

8 C Ha has been doing some very interesting work in Geography this year. We have made note books on "The Three Needs of Man."

In these books we have pasted pictures illustrating food, clothing, and shelter of people in all climates. We have written articles explaining our topics.

Gladys Perkins

8 CS

In our history class this year we tried to appreciate the importance of this study. One of the things we did was to dramatize the "Constitution." Every boy and girl had to take his place as one of those who signed the "Constitution." In that way we made that event of long ago more real than by merely studying about it in our text book.

Frederick Brewer

Practical Arts

The Practical Art boys in shop have made some useful things this year, with the help of Mr. Dutelle. Some of these articles are camp stools, boats, aeroplanes, porch chairs, bread boards, candle sticks, coat racks, and forty-two drawing tables for use in the art room next year. These drawing tables have been praised by Mr. Chase, our Superintendent.

John Turner, P A 1

8 G C

8 G C occupied a prominent position in the Club Night program. Many of its pupils played important parts in the operetta. Henry Kelleher, in the role of an old man won great applause from the audience for both his singing and acting. Phillip Wilson, as captain of the the cadets, delighted everyone present with his dignified appearance as well as with his solo. Luigi Appolloni, Andrew Bye, Fred Erato, Norman Kelly, and Charles Nadeau as cadets, were equally good.

George Magnan

8 G B

The children of 8 G B enjoyed a caravan trip across the Sahara. Each one planned his own trip, his starting place, his destination, and goods he wished to carry. It was fun to listen to the descriptions of the sand storms, the animals, the other caravans that were passed by us, and the oases where we stopped on our trip, for each story was original.

We were fortunate enough to meet Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnson before they left Africa for America. So we listened in on April First, and heard about the animals we had

already studied in "Safari" and "Three Boy Scouts in Africa."

Each one has been responsible for a special topic on the British colonies of Africa. For fun many of us have made product maps and salt and flour maps of Africa. We shall all be sorry to leave the exciting continent of Africa.

Virginia Phillips

8 C V's Book Club

The 8 C V Book Club consists of thirty-one pupils who named it *Our Better Speech Club*. The class is separated into seven groups who correct and criticise the talker and his English. Each pupil is given a topic such as: Articles About Books, A Favorite Author, A Favorite Character, A Book Review, and A Synopsis. Six pupils are chosen to recite each week when our club meets.

The value of this club is to teach us to improve our English and to appreciate good literature. It helps us to have a good posture and to talk steadily before an audience for a certain length of time.

In our spare time we should read plenty of good books. We shall never regret the moments we have spent raising our English to a higher standard.

Beatrice Paul

James Fenimore Cooper

*James Fenimore Cooper you know
Wrote stories, oh, how thrilling,
Of Indians, pioneers, and men,
Of bold warfare and killing.
The people that he painted
Live and act before your eyes;
As you read his famous classics,
You may live a thousand lives.*

Barbara Demack 8 G Ha

THE EARLY SCHOOLS

OF BEVERLY

Our history teacher, Miss Lapham has told us the following interesting facts about the early schools in Beverly.

Schools in colonial times were not free schools, such as we have today. The town paid a part of the expense and charged a small fee for each child or pupil. The Selectmen required the teacher to send them a list of the parents whose children he taught. If these parents refused to pay their share of the fuel used in heating the school room, their children had to take the seats farthest from the fire.

The first town school was opened in 1676 and Samuel Hardie was the first teacher. The school was held in the meeting house in summer, and in a private house that could be heated, in winter. Summer sessions were long; four hours in the morning, and four in the afternoon. Each session was shortened one hour in winter. Vacations came irregularly. If it were hard to get a school master, there would be no school for several months, but if a schoolmaster could be found, school was open throughout the year. Once there was a period of five years without any vacations at all.

In 1674, the town voted to build a school house twenty feet long, sixteen feet wide, and nine feet high, on the town land near the meeting house. The school house was not built until 1716, and we are not sure that it was the size they first voted to have it, but it must have been very small, for it was soon put on wheels and moved four times a year. This was because the parents of some children com-

plained that their children had to walk too far. For several years the school was kept three months in each of these parts of the town; the Common, Beverly Farms, North Beverly, and at the head of what is now known as Bartlett Street. A second school was opened at the Farms in 1749. A woman, for the first time, was teacher, and children could go to school without paying a fee. In 1754, the town voted to have five district schools. After that the first schoolhouse remained at the Common as long as it could be used. It is probably the building now a woodshed behind the house near the corner of Essex and Charnock Streets.

Mary Burke, 7 L

Exchange News

It is my pleasure as Exchange Editor for the Briscoe Briefs to write to the neighboring Junior High Schools asking them if they would be willing to exchange school papers with us.

The Briscoe Briefs' Staff gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following magazines: *The Vista* from the Eastern Junior High School, Lynn, Mass.; the *Beanstalk (Watch it Grow)* of the Pickering Junior High School, Lynn, Mass.; the *Phillips Microphone* of the Phillips School, Salem, Mass.; the *Manet* of the North Junior High School, Quincy, Mass.; the *Shurtleff Shavings* of the Shurtleff Junior High School, Chelsea, Mass.; and the *Bates School Echo* of the Bates School, Middleboro, Mass.

Mary Scullin, 8 CS

Exchange Editor

A SPEED TEST

As we enter the typewriting room, not one click of the typewriters greets our ears. We listen to Miss Hartshorn, and learn that the pupils are about to have a speed test. If they can write thirty words or over in a minute, they are eligible for a certificate awarded by the Underwood Company. The errors cannot total above five. Miss Hartshorn tells the pupils to head their papers and this they do in less than two minutes. Soon after that they are ready to begin. All nerves are tense and hopes high that they may be able to complete the required number of words. At the word "go" all typewriters begin to click, slowly at first, but gradually faster. On and on they speed, and every little while one can hear the carriage thrown over. After, fifteen minutes of writing, "time is called and most of the typists" stop but some tarry to finish a word. The pupils take their papers from the machines and pass them to their neighbors. The teacher reads the test slowly, spelling each difficult word. Next the strokes are counted and divided by five as that is the number of letters in the average word. Each error takes ten words off, so the sum of errors is multiplied by ten and subtracted from the total number of words. The remainder is divided by fifteen to find the average number of words written in a minute. Some pupils are disappointed with the results, but we hear some "ohs" and "ahs" of delight as we leave the room.

Eva Howard, 8 C S

Our Imaginary Trip Through Europe

In September we left the United States and took a huge steamer bound for Liverpool. From here we made a tour of Great Britain. We spent a week in London where we saw Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, London Bridge, and Buckingham Palace. Then we traveled by auto through rural England and toured Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Across the rough English channel we sailed to France. We would liked to have stayed in gay Paris forever but on we moved to Switzerland, the land of mountains, glaciers, and lakes. When we said farewell to Mont Blanc, we traveled on the St. Gothard railway to Italy. How we enjoyed Rome, Florence, Naples, and Venice! After a sail down the Adriatic we arrived at Athens, and from there we journeyed to the picturesque Balkan Countries.

From Constantinople we sailed across the blue Mediterranean to Lisbon and toured Portugal and Spain.

The last part of our tour we spent in brave little Belgium; in Holland, the land below the sea level; and in Germany with its many industries. Last but not least we went to the land of the Raven; then to Norway and Sweden, the "Land of the Midnight Sun;" and to Russia the land of Revolutions. Our trip is over, and we have returned to "The land of youth and freedom beyond the ocean bars, where the air is full of sunlight, and the flag is full of stars."

Kenneth Lang, 7 La

The Horrible Parade

The U.S. freight steamer Alabama arrived in Shanghai with a load of machinery. Before unloading the cargo, the captain had some matters of business to attend to on land. In the middle of the afternoon the first mate noticed a large collection of Chinese river craft just a little too close for comfort. He saw men armed to the teeth walking around on the small decks of these boats. As he had heard many tales about Chinese river pirates and the cruel treatment their captives received, he was determined to be on the safe side, so he armed every man on the Alabama. About seven o'clock he noticed some commotion and excitement on board the Chinese boats. What he had feared was about to occur. The pirates were preparing for an attack!

About eight o'clock the expected attack came. Pirates swarmed up the sides of the ship eager for plunder. The men fairly mowed them down but more and still more took their place. For three quarters of an hour no pirate gained a foothold upon the deck. The Chinese threw everything in the manner of knives and swords at the crew. The Americans, their nerves strained and their ammunition nearly spent, were steadily losing heart. The mate saw this and realized that he must think of some scheme to save his ship, for the pirates were making preparations for a last desperate attack.

Suddenly he thought of a plan. "Rig up the moving picture machine!" he commanded. His command was promptly obeyed, and soon the picture, a Fourth of July Horrible Parade, which his men had enjoyed so much the night before, flashed across the screen on the deck.

The pirates, cringing with fear at the sudden appearance of their idols, jumped back to their craft and rowed hurriedly away. No other attack came and the exhausted crew of the Alabama sank to the deck in a refreshing sleep.

John Welch, 8 G Ha

Briscoe Girls' Team Defeats Alumni

During the year of 1928-29 each home room had a girls' basketball team, and many inter-class games were played under the supervision of Mr. Cronin. The best players from each room were then selected to play the the Briscoe Alumni at the Beverly High School Gym. Our team was accompanied by Miss Anderson of the Briscoe Faculty, and the game was refereed by Miss Cheney of the High School Faculty. After four quarters of intense excitement the Briscoe team won by the score of 21 to 17.

The players from Briscoe were:— Louise Hinkley, Lillian Gadbois, Dorothy Hopkins, Flora Spear, Priscilla Pert, Susie Dimala, Ruth Daigle, Theresa Connors, Grace Marletta, Florence Massa, Barbara Moore, Eva Howard, Virginia Parisella, Evelyn Rust, and Minnie Stern.

The Alumni players were:—

Lillian Dockham, Rita Boyd, Argia Ventura, Frances Accomando, Viola Valentino, Virginia Temple, Eleanor Meyer, Susan Dennis, Marion George, Augusta Schoenky, Winonia Davis, and Elizabeth Goss.

Fred E. Lewis, 8 G C

A Summary of Our Assemblies

Our assemblies this year have been especially interesting. The teachers in charge and the pupils taking part have tried in every way to give worthwhile performances.

The seventh grades were welcomed to Briscoe at our first assembly. The Advisory Council, also, was introduced. Our Briscoe alphabet was explained:

B—Be Prompt

R—Respectful

I—Intelligence

S—Safety First

C—Co-operation

O—Obedience

E—Everyone be Loyal

We visited, through our Thanksgiving assembly, the Thanksgivings spent by the people of the past. This was presented in tableau form. From this, we gathered thoughts of olden times, and in comparison realized how many things we have to be thankful for in the present.

Fortunate were we on Christmas. Three plays were presented. In the morning the regular assembly was given. This reminded us of the old proverb, "It is more blessed to give than receive." The afternoon carried with it more pleasures. A play taken from "Dickens's Christmas Carol," was presented. Mr. Cronin played the part of Scrooge, as his Christmas gift to the boys and girls of Briscoe. Miss Robbins and the Glee Club entertained us with songs and tableaux of the first Christmas.

January's assembly was very unique. It was an animated Briscoe Briefs. Reports were made from all the rooms, in play form. We spent a pleasant afternoon at this assembly.

Two plays were presented for the

February assembly. "The most Beautiful Valentine" and "The Left-over Boy." These were well done and greatly enjoyed.

"The Patriotic Peanut Stand," brought much laughter with it. This was the March assembly.

The Memorial Day assembly brought to our minds incidents of the five wars in which the United States has figured, and made us realize anew the debt we owe to our soldiers and sailors.

With much anticipation the 8th grade is awaiting the June assembly, on the last day of school. At this assembly the seventh grade entertains the pupils of grade eight. This assembly is always a surprise, and we know that we will have a delightful morning.

Our fifty-three piece orchestra, of which we are very proud, has always afforded us a great deal of pleasure at our assemblies.

Emily Stiles, 8 C S

Boys' Basketball at Briscoe

This year at Briscoe the boys took the pick of their teams and formed an "All Star Team." This team putted its skill against the older and more experienced Alumni five and were defeated in a hard fought contest by a score of 16 to 10.

Briscoe Team

Polonzi and Roberto, left guards
Marcaldi and De Vincenzo, right guards

Lewis and Di Mala, center
Thomas and Danjou, left forwards
Cunningham, Ginsberg, and Center, right forwards

Briscoe Alumni

Butler and Howard, right forwards
Hamilton and Maran, left forwards
Johnson and Siphol, center
Hoak, right guard
Malloy, left guard

Beverly During a Storm

(Nature in a Sullen Mood)

If you had stood on this very spot the night before, you would have beheld a picture of wild fury--the turbulent whitecapped waves lashing the shore with the fury of an angry snake attacking his prey, the cold air filled with blinding, cutting sleet. Now everything is different. The swirling sea of the night has changed to a dull gray sullen body of water. The waves are not even white capped as they monotonously lap the sandy shore. The steel gray heavens scowl as in disapproval of this bleak cheerless world. Plaintive cries from the floating seagulls reach my ears. The coast line is faint and hazy, but I can distinguish three half hidden houses behind many bare trees. Everything seems dull and wet; and such a morbid depression permeates the atmosphere, that I am glad to turn my back on the scene and start for home.

Barbara Demack, 8 G Ha

The War of Gods

(The Ocean Front)

The mammoth waves rushed onward and crashed against the towering sea-wall that shielded the rain-soaked land from the raging surf. Rocks and emerald seaweed were torn from their comfortable sandy bed, and hurled through the glistening spray. Boulders, standing like sentinels guarding the shore, peered intently through the gather-

ing gloom, and over all the leaden sky hung low resembling a huge blanket drawn over the stormy ocean. The only sounds heard were the booming of the waves as they crashed against the aged rocks, and the heavy swish of the rain as it poured down in an effort to quench the ocean's anger. It seemed as if a fierce battle were raging between Neptune and Pluvius.

Rita Murray, 8 G Ha

The Revengeful Storm

(Abbott Street Beach)

The raindrops splashed on the window pane and then disappeared leaving streaky traces of their visit as I looked out into the storm. The roaring, dashing waves leaped high over the old stone sea wall and pounced threateningly on the beach. The green water, boiling with revenge, turned to white caps that rushed with fury toward the land, as if they were hungry mad lions seeking their prey. I shrank away with terror at the lashing fury of one especially huge wave driving many things before it onto the beach, then working its way over the wall and halfway up the glistening grass of the hill. The wind howled and shrieked, and I thought of the ships out on the sea being tossed about so by the furious storm. Yet in spite of its terrifying aspects, the scene before me held me fascinated and awed at my window pane. Such is one of the storms that come to Beverly's shores.

Rosemary Pope, 8 G Ha

Appreciation

It was Alumni Day at Briscoe School, 1939. After an unusually delightful entertainment, the guests departed, yet several young men and women lingered on the stone steps. The oldest boy in the group had been graduated in 1929, ten years before, and was now earning a fine salary as an accountant in a large firm. "Well," he remarked, "I'm certainly glad Mr. Cronin advised me to take the Commercial Course in Beverly High School. I had my mind set on Practical Arts, but he said I was better fitted for commercial work. Now I have decided he was right. It certainly paid me to heed his advice!"

"Yes," drawled a young girl, "He urged me to take the Normal Preparatory Course. I didn't want to at first because I thought it would be too hard, but now I am enjoying a pleasant year teaching English in a Boston School, so I'm glad I changed my mind. I love my work, thanks to the beloved principal of Briscoe."

"I'll never forget what he has done for me," said another youth. "I was as mischievous as I could be in school, but he gave me chance after chance because he had faith in me. I appreciate him now that I realize what a lot he had to go through just for me. He's a fair just man and no one can deny it."

"Fair and just" does not do him full credit," interrupted another lad. "He's loyal, honorable, courteous, learned, and a man clear through!"

A dreamy eyed girl who had been studying Shakespeare quoted, "His quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath."

"If we are using poetry," said a jolly lad, "I think that Edwin Marken's *Lincoln* applies to Mr. Cronin—especially the lines:

*"The rectitude and patience of the cliff,
The goodwill of the rain that loves all leaves,
The friendly welcome of the way-side well,
The courage of the bird that dares the seas."*

It was not until twilight gathered that the little party separated, and in the hearts of many on their homeward journey echoed the familiar song—"Here's to dear old Briscoe, Our hearts are thine."

Barbara Demack, 8 G Ha

Literary Honors

Two member of 8 G Ha have been the winners of prizes, two beautifully bound books, at the Beverly Public Library. Margaret Curtls received *A Vagabond's Travels* around the World: for writing the best book review, and Anna Fitzgerald, "*The Readers' Digest of Books*" for the best reference work done at "Seekers of Knowledge Club."

Virginia Foster, 8 G Ha

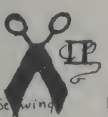
HIGHLIGHTS-OF-CLUB-NIGHT



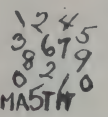
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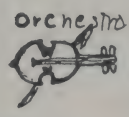
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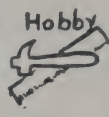
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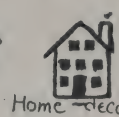
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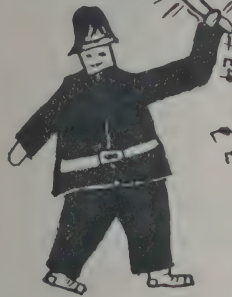


Help
an old
Woman

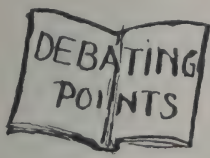


THE FUNNY OLD
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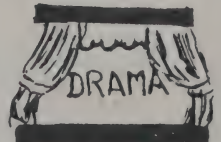
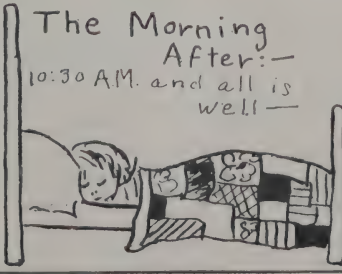
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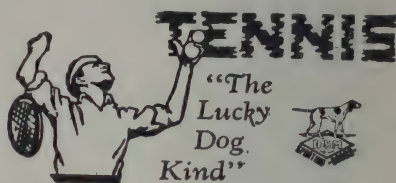
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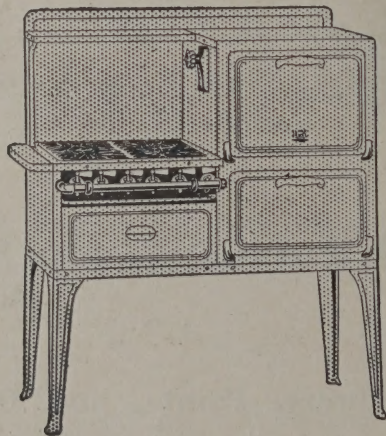
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